

IN THE CLAIMS

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) A mixed TNFSF oligomer comprising at least one variant TNFSF protein comprising at least a variant extracellular domain of a TNFSF monomer protein and a naturally occurring TNFSF monomer protein.

18. (Original) A variant TNFSF monomer protein comprising at least a variant extracellular domain of a TNFSF protein.

19. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein wherein said variant TNFSF protein will interact with a receptor interface in at least one receptor binding site to render said receptor substantially incapable of activating receptor signaling.

20. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 18 comprising at least one receptor contact domain that has reduced affinity for a desired receptor as compared to its corresponding wild-type TNFSF protein and retains the ability to interact with other receptor interaction domains.

21. (Original) A mixed TNFSF oligomer comprising at least one variant TNFSF protein monomer according to claim 18, wherein said mixed oligomer has reduced ability to activate the corresponding receptor as compared to a wild-type oligomer.

22. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 18, wherein said variant TNFSF protein physically interacts with a naturally occurring TNFSF protein to form mixed trimers.

23. (Original) A mixed TNFSF oligomer comprising at least one variant TNFSF protein monomer according to claim 18 comprising a modification at a receptor contact position.

24. (Original) A variant TNFSF monomer protein according to claim 18, wherein said variant TNFSF protein comprises a modification at a trimer interface position.

25. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 18, wherein said variant TNFSF protein physically interacts with its corresponding naturally occurring TNFSF protein.

26. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 18, wherein said variant TNFSF protein physically interacts with a non-corresponding naturally occurring TNFSF protein.

27-32 (Cancelled)

33. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a variant TNFSF protein according to claims 18-26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

34-35 (Cancelled)

36. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claims 18, wherein at least one modification is non-conservative.

37. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claims 18, wherein at least one modification is a surface modification.

38. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claims 36, wherein said modification is located within a domain selected from the group consisting of: Large Domain, Small Domain, DE Loop, Trimer Interface and combinations thereof.

39. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 38, wherein at least one of said Large Domain positions is selected from the group consisting of TNFA corresponding positions 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 63, 64, 65, 66, 77, 68, 69, 112, 113, 114, 115, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146 and 147.

40. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 38, wherein at least one of said Small Domain positions is selected from the group consisting of TNFA corresponding positions 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 78, 79, 95, 96, 97 and 98.

41. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 38, wherein at least one of said DE Loop positions is selected from the group consisting of TNFA corresponding positions 84, 85, 86, 87, 88 and 89.

42. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 38, wherein at least one of said Trimer interface positions is selected from the group consisting of TNFA corresponding positions 11, 13, 15, 34, 36, 53, 54, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 72, 73, 75, 77, 119, 87, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 102, 103, 104, 109, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 147, 148, 149, 151, 155, 156 and 157.

43. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 42, wherein at least one of said Trimer Interface positions is selected from the group consisting of: 57, 34, and 91.

44. (Original) A variant TNFSF protein according to claim 18, wherein said variant TNFSF protein antagonizes soluble naturally occurring TNFSF proteins.